



## Feed the Future Country Fact Sheet

Online Version: <https://www.feedthefuture.gov/article/reporting-us-fight-against-world-hunger>

## Reporting on the U.S. Fight Against World Hunger

Our journey started with an early morning flight into the Tanzanian city of Arusha, where we were greeted by the impressive sight of Mount Kilimanjaro, whose snow covered peak dominates the landscape.

I was on my first media tour as the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Agencies in Rome. Accompanying me was a group of talented reporters from five African countries—Malawi, Uganda, Ghana, Niger, and Tanzania—plus two Europeans from France and Italy.

The U.S. Mission I lead—to the [UN Food and Agriculture Organization \(FAO\)](#), the [World Food Programme \(WFP\)](#), and the [International Fund for Agriculture Development \(IFAD\)](#)—introduced media tours a few years ago to give journalists an opportunity to see how countries like Tanzania and Malawi are investing in agriculture and in programs to fight hunger and improve nutrition, and how development partners like the United Nations and United States are helping them.

President Obama has emphasized that development must be characterized by transparency, mutual accountability and country-ownership. These media tours give us an opportunity to do just that, while exposing the journalists to the ins-and-outs of development work.

Over the past week, it has been easy to see how having journalists witness first-hand such projects helps them understand their critical role in telling these stories. The media can play an important role in promoting accountability for the investment commitments made by governments and development partners and, more importantly, for achieving development outcomes.

For me, this trip was also an occasion to remind myself once again what the work that we do every day in Rome, at our computers and in meetings, is really about. There is no substitute for going to villages and speaking to farmers, mothers, and schoolchildren. They are the ones who can tell us what is working in their lives, and what is not.

Stay tuned for my next blog entry, describing the Tanzanian leg of the journey and sharing some of what we have learned so far.

*This post originally [appeared](#) on the U.S. Department of State's DipNote blog. [David Lane](#) serves as [U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Agencies in Rome](#).*

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### More from the trip:

- Blog: [Smallholder Farmers Go Commercial in Tanzania](#)
- Blog: [In Malawi, the Future Belongs to the Organized](#)
- [Press release announcing the trip](#)
- [Ambassador Lane's remarks at a press conference in Malawi](#)
- [Photos and more on the U.S. Mission to the UN Agencies in Rome Facebook page](#)